

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A degater is described having upper and lower support halves movable relative to one another between an open position and a closed position. The support halves, while in the closed position, secure an encapsulated microelectronic device having excess encapsulant attached thereto and being partially severable therefrom. The upper support half includes a retainer for securing the excess encapsulant when in the closed position and for detaching the excess encapsulant from the encapsulated device when the support halves move to the open position. The upper support half also includes movable support pins which contact the encapsulated device when the support halves are in the closed position, and bias the encapsulated device against the lower support half as the support halves move from the closed to the open position.

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